

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-10 AGRE-00 AID-05
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DLOS-06
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 ERDA-07 FMC-02 TRSE-00
H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
NSF-02 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
SAL-01 /140 W

-----131201Z 027882 /21

R 130815Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1484

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 SEOUL 0313

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, KS

SUBJECT: TEXT OF ROKG NOTE ON FISHING QUOTA

THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF MOFA NOTE OEA/23 DATED JANUARY
12, 1977, PRESENTED TO THE ECONOMIC COUNSELOR ON JANUARY 13
BY HAM TAE HYUK, DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS.
SEPTEL REPORTS THE REMARKS HE MADE AT THE TIME THE NOTE WAS
PRESENTED:

BEGIN QUOTE

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND, WITH REFERENCE TO
THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA CONCERNING
FISHERIES OFF THE COASTS OF THE UNITED STATES SIGNED IN WASHING-
TON, D.C., ON JANUARY 4, 1977, HAS THE HONOR TO INVITE THE
ATTENTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE FORTH-
COMING ALLOCATION TO KOREA OF A PORTION OF TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH
OF FOREIGN FISHING WITHIN THE FISHERY CONSERVATION ZONE OF THE
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UNITED STATES.

ON DECEMBER 30, 1976, THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT, THROUGH ITS EMBASSY
IN WASHINGTON, D.C., SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED
STATES THE APPLICATION FOR PERMITS FOR KOREAN FISHING VESSELS IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED
AGREEMENT.

IN THIS CONNECTION, THE MINISTRY WOULD LIKE TO SOLICIT THAT THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT FACTORS SHOULD BE DULY TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BY THE AUTHORITIES CONCERNED OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IN DETERMINING THE SAID PORTION THAT MAY BE ALLOWABLE TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

IT IS RECALLED THAT, AT THE TIME OF THE CONCLUSION OF THE AGREEMENT CONCERNING COOPERATION IN FISHERIES OF 1972, THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION REQUESTED THE NATIONALS AND VESSELS OF KOREA TO REFRAIN FROM FISHING FOR SALMON AND HALIBUT IN THE NORTH-EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN AND BERING SEA EAST OF 175 WEST LONGITUDE, WHILE ENCOURAGING THEM TO CATCH OTHER STOCKS OF FISH. IT FURTHER PLEDGED TO ASSIST BY APPROPRIATE MEANS THE DEVELOPMENT OF KOREAN FISHERIES INDUSTRY. THE KOREAN FISHERIES AUTHORITIES, ACCORDINGLY, WERE GREATLY ENCOURAGED TO DEVELOP AND EXPAND THE KOREAN FISHING FLEETS MAINLY WITH FOREIGN LOANS. THEY NOW HAVE ENGAGED IN FISHING FOR ALASKA POLLOCK PRINCIPALLY IN THE BERING SEA AND OFF THE COASTS OF THE KAMCHATKA PENINSULA. HOWEVER, THESE FISHING FLEETS WHICH HAVE JUST STARTED THEIR OPERATIONS IN THE SUBSTANTIAL PART WERE SHUT OUT OF THE WATERS BY THE FORTH-COMING DECISION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES ONLY WITH THE EMPHASIS ON KOREA'S STILL MEAGER RECORDS OF THE PAST FEW YEARS' FISHING WITHIN THE NEWLY DRAWN LINE. IN CASE THE OPERATIONS OF THE FISHING FLEET IN THE WATERS ARE THUS HAMPERED, IT IS FEARED THAT SERIOUS ECONOMIC DISLOCATION WOULD BE ENGENDERED.

THE KOREAN PEOPLE HAVE FISHED POLLOCK FOR MORE THAN FIVE HUNDRED YEARS. POLLOCK, BEING LOW-PRICED FISH, WAS ONE OF THE MAIN SOURCES
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OF ANIMAL PROTEIN FOR THE KOREAN PEOPLE. VERY CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH POLLOCK FOR VERY LONG TIME, THEY ARE ENTITLED TO SPECIAL CLAIMS ON IT AS THEIR FOOD RESOURCES. IT IS, THEREFORE, STRONGLY REQUESTED THAT THIS SPECIAL FACTOR SHOULD BE APPROPRIATELY CONSIDERED IN DETERMINING THE KOREAN FISHING PORTION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

IN THIS REGARD, THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TOOK NOTE, DURING THE COURSE OF THE FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS OFF THE COASTS OF THE UNITED STATES, THAT "THE KOREAN POPULATION AS A DEVELOPING FISHING NATION DEPENDED HEAVILY ON FISH AS A MAJOR SOURCE OF PROTEIN" AND "AGREED THAT THIS FACTOR COULD BE CONSIDERED, AS APPROPRIATE, IN DETERMINATION OF ANY ALLOCATION TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA" IN THE AGREED MINUTES.

THE KOREAN FISHING FLEET HAS MAINLY BEEN ENGAGED IN FISHING OPERATION OFF THE COASTS OF THE KAMCHATKA PENINSULA, PRINCIPALLY FOR ECONOMIC REASONS. RECENTLY, THE CATCH IN THAT WATERS HAS REACHED AN ANNUAL AVERAGE OF FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND TONS OF

POLLOCKS.

THE RECENT DECLARATION BY THE SOVIET UNION OF ITS OWN FISHERIES CONSERVATION ZONE AGGRAVATED THE DIFFICULT SITUATION DEVELOPED SINCE THE UNITED STATES DECLARATION OF FISHERIES CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ZONE. IF THE KOREAN FISHING FLEET WERE ACTUALLY DRIVEN OUT OF THE KAMCHATKA COAST, IT WOULD NOT ONLY CAUSE HAVOC OF THE KOREAN FISHING FLEET, BUT ALSO ABRUPTLY DEPRIVE THE KOREAN PEOPLE OF AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF FOOD SUPPLY.

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1485

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IT IS, THEREFORE, CORDIALLY REQUESTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TAKE SPECIAL ACCOUNT OF THESE PARTICULAR THREE FACTORS PERTAINING TO KOREA IN THE ALLOCATION OF THE FISHING QUOTA FOR THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA. IT IS SINCERELY HOPED THAT THE QUOTA FOR THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA SHOULD BE SUCH AMOUNT AS TO ENSURE THE ECONOMIC SURVIVAL OF THE KOREAN NORTH-PACIFIC FISHING FLEET AND SECURE TO THE KOREAN PEOPLE THE CONTINUED SUPPLY OF LOW-PRICED ANIMAL PROTEIN.

IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA EARNESTLY REQUESTS THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO ALLOCATE TO KOREA IN ANY CASE NOT LESS THAN 150,000 METRIC TONS OF FISH. IT IS ALSO REQUESTED THAT, SHOULD THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA LOSE HER TRADITIONAL FISHING GROUND OFF THE KAMCHATKA PENINSULA OWING TO THE RESTRICTIONS NEWLY IMPOSED BY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SOVIET FISHERIES CONSERVATION ZONE, APPROPRIATE CONSIDERATION BE FURTHER GIVEN TO THIS MATTER.

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AVAILS ITSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY
TO RENEW TO THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THE
ASSURANCES OF ITS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

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END QUOTE
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